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STATE OF MAINE COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS AND ELECTION PRACTICES 135 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0135

AGENDA Meeting of July 12, 1999

9:00 A.M., Ethics Commission Meeting Room, 1st Floor 242 State Street, Augusta, Maine

ROUTINE BUSINESS

1. Ratification of Minutes of the June 8, 1999 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- 2. Electronic Filing Project Status Report -- Executive Director.
- 3. Council on Governmental Ethics Laws (COGEL) Annual Conference Information

NEW BUSINESS

- 4. Failure to submit required statement of specific sources of income by Legislator.
- Late Lobbyist Disclosure Reports:
- A. Kimberly A. Gilman, Lobbyist for The Trust for Public Land
 Late May 1999 Report -- Due 6/15/99; Filed 6/23/99 -- 8 days late
 No previous late filings this biennium

Penalty: \$100

Recommendation: Mitigate to \$50 based on previous filing record.

B. Erin Rowland, Lobbyist for The Trust for Public Land
Late May 1999 Report -- Due 6/15/99; Filed 6/23/99 -- 8 days late
No previous late filings this biennium

Penalty: \$100

Recommendation: Mitigate to \$50 based on previous filing record.

C. Michael W. Macleod-Ball, Esq., Lobbyist for Madelyn Marx
Late Registration (1 mo.) -- Due 4/23; Filed 6/16 (\$200)
Late April 1999 Report (1 mo.) -- Due 5/17; Filed 6/16 (\$100)
Late May 1999 Report (1 mo.) -- Due 6/15; Filed 6/18) (\$100)
No previous late filings this biennium

Total Penalty: \$400



AGENDA -- Meeting of July 12, 1999

Recommendation: Mr. Macleod-Ball asserts that in February 1999 his office requested from the Ethics Commission staff the necessary forms to register and file reports, but did not receive the required forms until either "mid to late April" or "after the May 15, 1999 deadline for the April report" (his letter of June 18, 1999 is contradictory on that point). Resolving the benefit of any doubt in favor of respondent (i.e. that the necessary forms were not received until on or about May 15, 1999), the registration and April report were not filed until June 16, 1999, and the May report on June 18, 1999 (prompted by a telephone call from our office). Thus, applying the minimum period of lateness to each of the items (i.e., one month), the total penalty would be \$400. Staff recommends that the penalty be mitigated to \$200 based on the previous filing record. Alternatively, the Commission may consider waiving the penalty in full based on the facts asserted in Mr. Macleod-Ball's correspondence.

6. Executive Session:. Status of lawsuits challenging the Maine Clean Election Act (Daggett, et al. v. Webster, et al.) and lobbyist registration fees (MCOA/MCLU v. Webster, et al.).

ADJOURNMENT